

State of North Carolina



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

2009

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 2008, the National Weather Service in North Carolina issued more than 1300 severe thunderstorm warnings and recorded more than 1500 incidents of severe thunderstorms with damaging winds and/or large hail, placing it fourth in the nation for the number of severe weather reports; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is traditionally an active tornado state especially during the spring, and last year had 50 tornadoes touchdown with statewide damages exceeding \$25 million; and

WHEREAS, people are less likely to be injured when they know what to do when a tornado warning is issued and severe weather conditions threaten; and

WHEREAS, the average lead warning time for severe weather in 2008 was 18 minutes and the average lead warning time for tornadoes was 14 minutes; and

WHEREAS, lightning strikes are a significant threat in North Carolina, especially for people involved in outdoor recreational and sporting events; and

WHEREAS, citizens should listen to local radio, television, a weather channel or a NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) radio for information on severe weather; and

WHEREAS, families should have an emergency safety plan for home, school and work, including knowing where the safest locations are on their regularly-traveled routes; and

WHEREAS, individuals should have a disaster supply kit on hand that contains a first-aid kit, a battery-powered radio, flashlight with extra batteries, canned and other non-perishable food, a hand-operated can opener, bottled water, sturdy shoes and work gloves; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, the National Weather Service and the Department of Public Instruction have collaborated to inform and educate North Carolinians about how to stay safe in severe weather; and

WHEREAS, Wednesday, March 4, is the designated day for tornado drills to be held statewide in schools, government buildings and private companies;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of March 1-7, 2009, as "**SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK**" in North Carolina, and call upon our citizens and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate activities that promote awareness of severe weather and how to stay safe.



Beverly Eaves Perdue

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the City of Raleigh, this twenty-sixth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.